GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1024
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2002
VISIT OF TOURISTS ABROAD
VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether apart from China, even small countries like Malaysia, Hongkong, Thailandand Singapore have recorded more tourist arrivals last year as compared to India;

(b) if so, whether India is burdened with lack of infrastructure, exorbitant hotel tariffs, high cost of domestic flying due to costliest Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) and increasing incidents of terrorism and riots; and

(c) if so, the reasons for increasing number of Indians opting to fly out to neighbouring countries on short holidays even with a low budget?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The existing tax regime, high cost of travel and inadequate infrastructure have had an adverse impact on the growth and expansion of tourism in India.

(c) The visits of Indian tourists to neighbouring countries like Sri Lanka, Nepal, Singapore, etc. depend on their preferences for various tourist attractions of these countries and the packages offered by them which suit their budget.